

THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

SPEECH OF

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 12, 2000

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to once again participate in the annual remembrance of the Armenian genocide. This year marks the 85th Anniversary of that terrible tragedy, which claimed the lives of over 1.5 million Armenians between 1915 and 1923.

The Armenian Genocide started in 1915, when the Turkish government rounded up and killed Armenian soldiers. Then, on April 24, 1915, the government turned its attention to slaughtering Armenian intellectuals. They were killed because of their ethnicity, the first group in the 20th Century killed not for what they did, but for who they were.

By the time the bloodshed of the genocide ended, the victims included the aged, women and children who had been forced from their homes and marched to relocation camps, beaten and brutalized along the way. In addition to the 1.5 million dead, over 500,000 Armenians were driven from their homeland.

It is important that we make the time, every year, to remember the victims of the Armenian genocide. We hope that, by remembering the bloodshed and atrocities committed against the Armenians, we can prevent this kind of tragedy from repeating itself. Unfortunately, history continues to prove us wrong.

So, Mr. Speaker, as we begin this new century, we must not forget the horrors of the past one. It is important to continue to talk about the Armenian genocide. We must keep alive the memory of those who lost their lives during the eight years of bloodshed in Armenia. We must educate other nations who have not recognized that the Armenian genocide occurred. Above all, we must remain vigilant.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Armenian-Americans—the survivors and their descendants—who continue to educate the world about the tragedy of the Armenian Genocide and make valuable contributions to our shared American culture. Because of their efforts, the world will not be allowed to forget the memory of the victims of the first 20th Century holocaust.

STATEMENT IN CELEBRATION OF
THE LIFE OF REVEREND EARL
NANCE, SR.**HON. WILLIAM (BILL) CLAY**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 13, 2000

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to the Reverend Earl Nance, Sr. of St. Louis, who passed away on Tuesday, April 4, at the age of 89. While Reverend Nance was pastor of the Greater Mount Carmel Church for over 43 years until retiring in 1994, he will be most remembered for his active role in St. Louis politics and the civil rights movement of the 1960's.

Born in Alma, Arkansas, Reverend Nance attended both Lincoln University in Jefferson

City, Missouri and Morehouse College in Atlanta, Georgia. During his studies at Morehouse, Reverend Nance befriended the late Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., whom he would later invite to the city of St. Louis to speak at a civil rights rally of over 9,000 individuals in 1957. He would remain a close an active ally of Dr. King as the Civil Rights movement grew and progressed during the 1960's.

Politically, Reverend Nance played an active role in many organizations in the St. Louis community. While pastor of the Greater Mount Carmel Missionary Baptist Church, he served on the St. Louis School Board from 1966 to 1973. He would also serve as an advisor to four St. Louis mayors, including Raymond Tucker, A.J. Cervantes, Vincent C. Schoemehl, Jr., and Freeman Bosley, Jr.

Reverend Nance will be remembered as both a friend and public servant of the highest integrity. The city of St. Louis, and all who are dedicated to the cause of racial harmony and equal opportunity, will long cherish the many contributions of this outstanding leader.

I would like to share the following articles about Reverend Nance's passing from the St. Louis Post-Dispatch on April 6, 2000.

[From the St. Louis Post-Dispatch Metro, Thurs., Apr. 6, 2000]

PASTOR AND POLITICAL ACTIVIST EARL NANCE
SR. DIES AT 89
(By Paul Harris)

The Rev. Earl Nance Sr., a longtime Baptist pastor and a community and political activist in St. Louis, died Tuesday (April 4, 2000) at Compton Heights Hospital after a brief illness. He was 89 and lived in St. Louis.

The Rev. Mr. Nance was pastor for 43 years of Greater Mount Carmel Missionary Baptist Church. His son, the Rev. Earl Nance Jr., co-pastor of the church, took over when his father retired in 1994.

The Rev. Mr. Nance and his son had a relationship that was more than just father and son—they were the closest of friends.

"It was definitely a strong relationship . . . and it remained so," Nance said. "I guess you could say we were like brothers, but you would always know who was the father. He was my role model, and he paved the way for me in the church and in the city."

Their lives had many other parallels. Both have been teachers in St. Louis Public Schools, have served on the St. Louis School Board and have served on the board of the Mathews-Dickey Boys' Club.

The Rev. Mr. Nance was an adviser to St. Louis Mayors Freeman Bosley Jr., Vincent C. Schoemehl Jr., John H. Poelker, Alfonso J. Cervantes and Raymond R. Tucker.

He served as president of the Central City Food Store, and he was the first president of the Missouri Progressive Baptist State Convention and moderator of its St. Louis District Association.

Reared on a farm in Alma, Ark., the Rev. Mr. Nance came to St. Louis in the 1930s and worked as a baggage handler at the bus station while living at the YMCA. He later sold insurance and attended the old Brooks Bible College here and Gamon Theological Seminary in Atlanta. He also served in the Army in World War II.

He graduated from Lincoln University in Jefferson City and Morehouse College in Atlanta, where he was a classmate of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. In 1962, he was instrumental in bringing the civil rights leader to St. Louis.

Recently, he received the Pioneer Award from the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. State Commemorative Committee for his commitment to civil rights in St. Louis.

Martin L. Mathews, president and chief executive officer of the Mathews-Dickey Boys and Girls Club, was a friend of the Rev. Mr. Nance for more than 40 years.

"He was always willing to go beyond the call of duty to help not only his congregation, but he would reach out and help others in the community," Mathews said. "He was a stern man, but fair. . . . He stood by what he believed in and never wavered."

The Rev. Mr. Nance was considered a mentor and counselor to many of the younger Baptist pastors in the city.

"He was there to help me shape my ministry," said the Rev. Willie J. Ellis Jr., pastor of New Northside Baptist Church. "He was a man that spoke his mind. . . . He told it just like it was."

The Rev. E.G. Shields, pastor of Mount Beulah M.B. Church, affectionately called the Rev. Mr. Nance "Dad."

"He had a love for younger pastors. He wanted us to make it," Shields said. "He helped us to build our churches by first getting our financial statements together. I loved and respected him. He was truly a father figure to me."

The Rev. Mr. Nance served as an associate pastor at Galilee Baptist Church and at Calvary Baptist Church before he became pastor of Greater Mount Carmel.

Visitation will be from 3 to 6 p.m. Saturday at Greater Mount Carmel M.B. Church, 1617 North Euclid Avenue. A funeral service will be at 6 p.m. Sunday at the church. Burial will be at St. Peter's Cemetery, 2101 Lucas and Hunt Road.

The Rev. Mr. Nance was married to the late Thelma Brown Nance, who also was a teacher in St. Louis Public Schools. She died in May. Survivors are two brothers, Clyde Nance and Ray Nance, both of Los Angeles; a sister, Sue Nance of Los Angeles; and a granddaughter.

A CIVIL RIGHTS PIONEER, MR. EARL NANCE SR.

With the passing of the Rev. Earl Nance Sr., the civil rights movement, the people of St. Louis and members of the Greater Mount Carmel Missionary Baptist Church have lost a friend.

As one of 18 children born to Betty and Willis Nance of Alma, Ark., Mr. Nance came from a humble background. Education was the tool Mr. Nance used to advance. He never forgot where he came from, and he always worked for better schools.

He began his formal education in Fort Smith, Ark., and attended Gamon Theological Seminary in Atlanta and Brooks Bible College in St. Louis. He was a graduate of Lincoln University in Jefferson City and of Morehouse College in Atlanta.

While at Morehouse, Mr. Nance was the somewhat older classmate, study partner and friend of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. Earl Nance became one of Mr. King's lieutenants in the civil rights movement and helped plan some of the movement's strategies.

He was influential in bringing the Rev. Dr. King to speak at a Freedom Rally here in 1957. More than 9,000 people attended the rally at Kiel Auditorium Convention Hall. The money raised helped the civil rights effort in the South.

And twice when Dr. King came to St. Louis he spoke at Washington Tabernacle Church, where the Rev. Mr. Nance's uncle, the late Rev. Dr. John E. Nance, was pastor. Before

becoming pastor of Greater Mount Carmel in 1951, the Rev. Mr. Nance was a public school teacher. He was a member of the St. Louis School Board from 1966 to 1973 and an adviser to four St. Louis mayors: Raymond Tucker, A.J. Cervantes, Vincent C. Schoemehl Jr. and Freeman Bosley Jr.

For all his contributions to the community and church, perhaps Mr. Nance's greatest legacy is his son, the Rev. Earl Nance Jr. The younger Mr. Nance and his father were regarded as a team, with the son following closely in his father's footsteps. Mr. Nance Jr. and his father were co-pastors of Greater Mount Carmel from 1979 until the elder Nance's retirement in 1994.

Shortly after his father's death, Earl Nance Jr. recalled two of his favorite memories of his father: "He had a good sense of humor. He always kept us laughing at home. And he never missed my baseball games. He always blocked out Saturdays so he could watch me play."

COMMENDING THE STUDENTS AT MOUNTLAKE TERRACE HIGH SCHOOL

HON. JAY INSLEE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 13, 2000

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, at an event back home in Washington State, I had the opportunity to speak and listen to a group of students from Mountlake Terrace High School in my Congressional District. The group I spoke with represents some of the best and the brightest of our nation and their voices ought to be heard as we debate education reform. After I spoke to them many of the students e-mailed me with their thoughts and I rise today to share a few of the concerns that they have about the issues that we are debating in this chamber.

Justine, a student at Mountlake Terrace, stated the importance of good, high quality teachers. She wrote: "They are the ones who are teaching us how to take care of this beautiful place when people like you become too old to do so." We are on the verge of a teacher crisis in our country. Our children recognize the effects that teachers have on our future—I believe that it is time for us to recognize this as well.

I ask you to support a bill that I plan to introduce as an incentive for young people to enter into the teaching profession. Many of our young adults graduate from college strapped by enormous loans. My bill forgives the loans for those who teach in public schools for five years. This is a step in the right direction. It will help schools in all of our districts and we have the chance this year to make an impact.

Second, many students addressed what we call the digital divide. Angee, another student at Mountlake Terrace wrote to me: "I thought it would be cool to take classes off the Internet. That would be very beneficial to people in our school who may need a certain class to graduate that is not offered at our school."

We can address this issue. I have written to my colleagues on the Appropriations Committee asking them to fund technology initiatives that make Advanced Placement courses

widely available to students by teaching them via the Internet. This is a real opportunity for us to expand curricula and at the same time allow students to develop more sophisticated computer skills. I urge my colleagues to join me in finding ways to use technology to enhance and expand educational opportunities.

Third and finally, a student wrote to me: "I would like to know what you would do to keep drugs out of school and how you would keep guns out of the hands of people who might commit crimes or be a danger to themselves." This is a good question and unfortunately the answer is, "Not enough."

Both Houses of Congress have passed Juvenile Justice legislation. To Members serving on the Conference committee—I ask that you go out into your communities and talk to students like the ones in my district and be sure that you can respond to their concerns about safety. Students realize that they have a responsibility to look out for each other and they know that they need to continue to do this. Parents also have a responsibility to be sure that they listen to their children and be the architects of a moral code of conduct for their family. As lawmakers we too share this responsibility to make our schools and communities safe. We cannot lecture parents, children, teachers and families about what they should be doing if we have not stepped up ourselves to address this issue where we can.

We stand now at a unique cross roads in American history. We enjoy a time of prosperous peace and economists predict that we will have a budget surplus in the federal budget. We are in a position to invest in the next generation of our nation. Unfortunately, our political system does not allow the students that I met with to vote. Imagine what would happen if they could. Think about what will happen in a few years when they can. They have asked me to help them and I challenge you—my colleagues—to join me and embrace the ideas represented by the next generation of Americans.

"THE ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY MOTOR VEHICLE FUEL ECONOMY ACT OF 2000"

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 13, 2000

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, recent gasoline price spikes have renewed our awareness that continuing improvements in fuel economy are important to America. Because the goal of improved fuel economy should not be forgotten, I am introducing a bill entitled "The Advanced Technology Motor Vehicle Fuel Economy Act of 2000."

Back in 1975, after the disruptions of the Arab Oil Embargo of 1973, Congress worked to improve energy conservation efforts. One of the key elements was the Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) program, whereby automakers would meet increasing levels of fuel economy for their fleets of vehicles. This program was well intentioned. It was expected to help the U.S. reduce its import of petroleum—especially from the least stable pro-

ducers around the world. National security would be improved. The balance of payments would be improved. Americans would save money at the pump. And automakers would be encouraged to bring new technologies to market faster.

However, expectations did not translate into reality. We have never seen \$3 a gallon for gasoline, and price spikes have only occurred on a couple of temporary occasions. Oil supplies have not significantly tightened nor have imports declined. Furthermore, gasoline consumption has not changed significantly.

Despite suggestions to the contrary, the fleet average fuel economy for passenger cars has increased by over 100% and for light duty trucks by over 50% since 1974. Manufacturers have made cars lighter, smaller and more aerodynamic. They have improved the efficiency of engines, transmissions, and accessories. Some may assert that this shows the success of the CAFE program. However, these changes actually occurred largely as a result of the higher prices that did exist through the late 1970s and the intense competitiveness among manufacturers worldwide after world oil prices began to decline.

While I support the goals of improved fuel efficiency, I believe any increases in CAFE would be very disruptive of the current light truck market and are not necessary. Vehicle choice is too important to consumers, and unilateral disruptions would significantly hurt our vital American Auto Industry. Instead, I believe the proposals in "The Advanced Technology Motor Vehicle Fuel Economy Act of 2000" are a better way to achieve the results we want.

First, it focuses on the advanced technologies that the automakers are already aggressively pursuing by providing incentives to consumers who purchase vehicles that use hybrid powertrains, electric drive or fuel cells. These incentives will help to promote the work that is underway in the industry/government partnerships like the Partnership for a New Generation of Vehicles (PNGV). PNGV is a collaborative program to develop breakthrough technologies to improve fuel economy.

PNGV has been a huge success already. Just last month, DaimlerChrysler, Ford and GM each displayed concept cars that show how the technologies being developed (hybrid powertrains, lightweight materials, lower rolling resistance tires, great aerodynamics, and others) can be packaged to provide a five passenger, family sedan that can get 80 miles per gallon without sacrificing performance and most of the other important characteristics of today's comparable vehicles.

Second, the bill sets up a thorough study of current and future energy conversation measures related to motor vehicles and transportation. This study would provide for the National Academy of Sciences to review the current U.S. energy situation and make recommendations for future action. In addition, this title of the bill would require a study of lean burn technologies to make sure the U.S. is not embarking on a path that would preclude the use of promising fuel saving technologies.

The bill also extends CAFE credits available to manufacturers for producing flexible fuel vehicles: vehicles that can use either gasoline or an alternative fuel, such as ethanol or natural